

IN THE CLAIMS:

1-38. (Canceled)

39. (New) An AV apparatus capable of transmitting or receiving information to and from a secondary AV apparatus via a bus, comprising:

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a reservation data management section to manage data regarding timed reservation information;

a time management section to give a notice when a time of a reserved operation arrives; and

a control section to transmit request information when the AV apparatus sets a timed reservation to be operated in cooperation with the secondary AV apparatus, where the request information requests the secondary AV apparatus to store apparatus use information which constitutes at least a set of reservation data to manage at least one reservation including information of a desired time during which the secondary AV apparatus should operate.

40. (New) An AV apparatus as claimed in claim 39, wherein the apparatus use information includes contents of an instruction for the secondary AV apparatus to execute during transmission or reception of video information or audio information during the desired time.

41. (New) An AV apparatus as claimed in claim 39 or 40, comprising a means for storing the apparatus use information.

42. (New) An AV apparatus as claimed in claim 39, comprising:

a means for receiving, in response to the request information, response information transmitted from the secondary AV apparatus via the bus on whether or not the apparatus use information can be stored.

43. (New) An AV apparatus as claimed in claim 39, comprising:

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a means for receiving, in response to the request information, apparatus use information on the secondary AV apparatus transmitted from the secondary AV apparatus via the bus.

44. (New) An AV apparatus as claimed in claim 43, comprising:

a means for, when the secondary AV apparatus can store the apparatus use information, transmitting the apparatus use information to the secondary AV apparatus via the bus.

45. (New) An AV apparatus as claimed in claim 43, comprising:

a means for transmitting display information on whether or not the secondary AV apparatus can store the apparatus use information to a display means to display the display information on whether or not storing is possible.

46. (New) An AV apparatus as claimed in claim 39, comprising:

a means for transmitting to the secondary AV apparatus via the bus, the apparatus use information together with the request information.

47. (New) An AV apparatus as claimed in claim 46, comprising:

a means for transmitting to the secondary AV apparatus via the bus, when the secondary AV apparatus cannot store the apparatus use information, information to request transmission of a conflicting apparatus use information which conflicts with the apparatus use information.

48. (New) An AV apparatus as claimed in claim 47, comprising:

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a means for receiving the conflicting apparatus use information from the secondary AV apparatus via the bus.

49. (New) An AV apparatus as claimed in claim 48, comprising:

a means for transmitting the conflicting apparatus use information to a display means to display the conflicting apparatus use information.

50. (New) An AV apparatus as claimed in claim 49, comprising:

a means for deciding, when information that storage is impossible has been received, which of conflicting sets of apparatus use information is to be given priority.

51. (New) An AV apparatus as claimed in claim 50, comprising:

a means for reading the apparatus use information out of the means to store the apparatus use information, and a means for altering the apparatus use information that has been read out.

52. (New) An AV apparatus capable of transmitting or received information to and from a secondary AV apparatus via a bus, comprising:

a reservation data management section to manage data regarding timed reservation information;

a time management section to give a notice when the time of reserved operation arrives; and

a control section to receive apparatus use information via the bus, the apparatus use information constitutes at least a set of reservation data for managing one reservation including information of a desired time that should be reserved by the secondary AV apparatus, and to determine whether or not such use as is indicated in a received apparatus use information is possible, according to the timed reservation information and the received apparatus use information.

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53. (New) An AV apparatus as claimed in claim 52, comprising:

a means for storing the apparatus use information and, if a use of the secondary AV apparatus indicated by the apparatus use information is possible, the apparatus use information transmitted from the secondary AV apparatus is stored.

54. (New) An AV apparatus as claimed in any one of claims 52 or 53, comprising:

a means for transmitting, if the use of the secondary AV apparatus indicated by the apparatus use information is impossible, information indicating the impossibility to use to the secondary AV apparatus via the bus.

55. (New) An AV apparatus as claimed in claim 39, wherein the information to request storage of the apparatus use information is information containing at least a starting time of the intended use of the secondary AV apparatus.

56. (New) A method for use in at least two AV apparatus including a first AV apparatus and a second AV apparatus connected by a bus, with both having a timed reservation function and where the second AV apparatus is controllable by the first AV apparatus to transmit or receive video information or audio information, the method comprising:

requesting the second AV apparatus by the first AV apparatus to store apparatus use information indicating at least a set of reservation data for managing one reservation including information of a desired time intended to be reserved by the first AV apparatus;

determining in the second AV apparatus whether or not a use indicated by the apparatus use information is possible according to existing apparatus use information that the second AV apparatus already has and the requested apparatus use information;

storing the requested apparatus use information in the second AV apparatus if the use designated by the requested apparatus use information is possible;

transmitting the result of determination from the second AV apparatus to the first AV apparatus via the bus; and

storing the requested apparatus use information in the first AV apparatus if a received result indicates that the use designated by the requested apparatus use information is possible.

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57. (New) A method for use in at least two AV apparatus including a first AV apparatus and a second AV apparatus connected by a bus, with both having a timed reservation function and where at least one of the first AV apparatus and the second AV apparatus is controllable by the other to transmit or receive video information or audio information, the method comprising:

requesting the second AV apparatus by the first AV apparatus to transmit apparatus use information existing in the second AV apparatus, the apparatus use information indicates at least a set of reservation data for managing one reservation including information of desired time intended to be occupied by the first AV apparatus;

transmitting the apparatus use information existing in the second AV apparatus from the second AV apparatus to the first AV apparatus via the bus;

determining by the first AV apparatus according to the existing apparatus use information transmitted from the second AV apparatus, whether or not a use of the second AV apparatus indicated by new apparatus use information is possible;

storing the new apparatus use information in the first AV apparatus; and

requesting the second AV apparatus to store the new apparatus use information in the second AV apparatus if the use designated by the new apparatus use information is possible.

58. (New) A method as claimed in claim 57, the method comprising:

transmitting secondary apparatus use information that obstruct a use indicated by the transmitted apparatus use information if the use designated by the transmitted apparatus use information is not possible.

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59. (New) A method as claimed in claim 58, wherein any conflicting sets of apparatus use information is transmitted to a display means, and the display means displays the conflicting sets of apparatus use information.

60. (New) A method as claimed in claim 59, wherein, if the information of impossibility to store is received, one of the conflicting sets of apparatus use information is given priority.

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61. (New) An AV system consisting of a plurality of bus-connected AV apparatus, comprising:

a first AV apparatus and a second AV apparatus included in the plurality of AV apparatus;

where the first AV apparatus includes:

a first reservation data management section to manage data regarding timed reservation information;

a first time management section to give a notice when a time of a reserved operation arrives; and

a first control section to control the first AV apparatus, the first control section transmits apparatus use information via bus when the first AV apparatus sets a timed reservation to be operated in cooperation with the second AV apparatus, and stores the apparatus use information if a possible result is received from the second AV apparatus, the apparatus use information constitutes at least a set of reservation data for managing at least one reservation including

information of a desired time during which the second AV apparatus
should be reserved; and

where the second AV apparatus includes:

a second reservation data management section to manage data
regarding timed reservation information;

a second time management section to give a notice when the
time of reserved operation arrives; and

a second control section to control the second AV apparatus,
the second control section receives the apparatus use information via
bus, determines according to the apparatus use information transmitted
from the first AV apparatus and existing apparatus use information in
the second AV apparatus whether or not such use designated by the
apparatus use information is possible, transmits a result of
determination to the first AV apparatus, and stores the apparatus use
information if the possible result is obtained by the determination.

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62. (New) An AV apparatus system including a plurality of bus-connected AV
apparatus, comprising:

an AV apparatus included in the plurality, the AV apparatus including:

a reservation data management section to manage data
regarding timed reservation information;

a time management section to give a notice when a time of a
reserved operation arrives; and

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a control section to transmit request information when the AV apparatus sets a timed reservation to be operated in cooperation with the second AV apparatus, where the request information requests the second AV apparatus to store apparatus use information which constitutes at least a set of reservation data to manage at least one reservation including information of a desired time during which the second AV apparatus should operate.

63. (New) An AV apparatus system as claimed in any one of claim 61 or 62, wherein the plurality of AV apparatus performs time adjustment.

64. (New) An AV apparatus system including a plurality of bus-connected AV apparatus, comprising:

a first AV apparatus included in the plurality, the first AV apparatus including:

a reservation data management section to manage data regarding timed reservation information;

a time management section to give a notice when a time of a reserved operation arrives; and

a control section to transmit request information when the first AV apparatus sets a timed reservation to be operated in cooperation with a second AV apparatus, where the request information requests the second AV apparatus to store apparatus use information which constitutes at least a set of reservation data to manage at least one

reservation including information of a desired time during which the
second AV apparatus should operate;

wherein apparatus use information pertaining to a first AV apparatus is stored
by the first AV apparatus and at least one second apparatus which intend to transmit
or receive video information or audio information to or from the first AV apparatus;

and

wherein when a third AV apparatus intends to transmit or receive video
information or audio information to or from the first AV apparatus or the second AV
apparatus, a state of use of the first AV apparatus and the second AV apparatus is
grasped by making an inquiry for the apparatus use information to either of the first
AV apparatus and second AV apparatus.

65. (New) An AV apparatus as claimed in claim 43, comprising:

a means for transmitting the apparatus use information to the secondary AV
apparatus via the bus.

66. (New) A primary AV apparatus connectable to a secondary AV
apparatus by a bus, where the secondary AV apparatus is controllable by the
primary AV apparatus to transmit or receive video information or audio information,
the primary AV apparatus comprising:

a reservation data management section to manage data regarding timed
reservation information;

a control section to:

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transmit primary apparatus use information existing in the primary AV apparatus to the secondary AV apparatus, where the primary apparatus use information indicates at least a set of reservation data for managing one reservation including information of desired time intended to be occupied by the primary AV apparatus, and request that the secondary AV apparatus to transmit secondary apparatus use information back to the primary AV apparatus;

receive the secondary apparatus use information existing in the secondary AV apparatus back from the secondary AV apparatus;

determine from the secondary apparatus use information transmitted from the secondary AV apparatus, whether or not a use of the secondary AV apparatus indicated by the primary apparatus use information is possible;

store the secondary apparatus use information in the primary AV apparatus; and

request the secondary AV apparatus to store the primary apparatus use information in the secondary AV apparatus if the use designated by the primary apparatus use information is possible.

67. (New) A secondary AV apparatus connectable to a primary AV apparatus by a bus, where the secondary AV apparatus is controllable by the primary AV apparatus to transmit or receive video information or audio information, the secondary AV apparatus comprising:

a reservation data management section to manage data regarding timed reservation information;

a control section to:

receive primary apparatus use information transmitted from the primary AV apparatus to the secondary AV apparatus, where the primary apparatus use information indicates at least a set of reservation data for managing one reservation including information of desired time intended to be occupied by the primary AV apparatus, and receive a request that the secondary AV apparatus transmit secondary apparatus use information back to the primary AV apparatus;

transmit the secondary apparatus use information existing in the secondary AV apparatus back to the secondary AV apparatus;

await determination by the primary AV apparatus using the secondary apparatus use information transmitted from the secondary AV apparatus, as to whether or not a use of the secondary AV apparatus indicated by the primary apparatus use information is possible;

receive a request from the primary AV apparatus to store the primary apparatus use information in the secondary AV apparatus if the use designated by the primary apparatus use information is possible; and

store the secondary apparatus use information in the secondary AV apparatus responsive to the request.

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